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1. Sultan Suspends Plans for CHUSMTM Move to Riyadh. Saqqaf advised the Charge September 17 that Defence Minister Prince SULTAN had sent a message stating he preferred CHUSMTM remain in Dhahran and that plans to relocate CHUSMTM in Riyadh be suspended. The Charge commented that our whole purpose in planning this move, for which many arrangements were already in train, was to make the advisory mission more effective by locating our Training Mission's headquarters near the Ministry of Defence on the pattern of our arrangements in all other countries. Saqqaf noted that the door was not entirely closed to such a move in the future.

On the same day in Taif General Leahy, CHUSMTM, paid his initial call on Prince Sultan. Sultan advised him he felt the projected move should be further studied. General Leahy informed the Embassy that he intends to raise the question at an appropriate time in the future. (CONFIDENTIAL)

2. Corps of Engineers Brigadier General Thomas Hayes Meets with Prince Sultan. At the conclusion of his brief visit to Jidda Brigadier General Thomas J. Hayes, Director of Topography and Military Engineering in the office of the Chief of Engineers, participated in an extended briefing of Prince Sultan September 20 reviewing the cost estimate submitted by the Corps for military construction projects in the Kingdom. Prince Sultan praised the work of the Corps highly but requested that the USG pay all costs attendant on the Corps supervision of the three major construction projects currently under study. He was informed that positive USG action on such a request presented insuperable obstacles. The Corps is preparing at Sultan's request further detailed breakdown in the estimates it has presented so far on costs of the first major construction project which the Saudis wish to undertake at Khamis Mushayt. (CONFIDENTIAL)

PSYCHOLOGICAL

1. Reactions to Summit Conference. All local papers carried full reports with pictures of Crown Prince Faysal's press conference at Alexandria and his return to Taif three days after the formal ending of the Conference. al-Bilad September 15 focussed on the Palestine Question as "the main Arab cause." The following day al-Bilad published an article by the respected Saudi writer Muhammad Hussayn Zaydan entitled "Faysal Between Two Eras." The first of these eras was when Israel was created with US support and the second is the new era of "Arab self-determination." A commentary September 17 referred to Faysal's discussion of the Conference with the SAG Council of Ministers and emphasized that only by such high level meetings as the one in Alexandria could the Arab League succeed in solving Arab problems. Several days of political cartoons in al-Madina illustrated the message headlined on September 20 that "The Summit Conference Resolutions Terrify Israel." All papers published without comment the SAG-JAR communique which included mention their joint undertaking to mediate in the Yemen conflict. (UNCLASSIFIED)

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For the Charge d'Affaires a.i.

Richard W. Murphy

Richard W. Murphy
Second Secretary of Embassy

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